

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-6 (canceled)

7. (original) A method of making carpet comprising the steps of :

providing a primary backing material;

tufting a yarn into the primary backing material to produce a carpet pile on the front side of the primary backing material and loops of the yarn on the back side of the primary backing material;

providing an aqueous dispersion of polyolefin particles;

applying the dispersion to the back side of the primary backing material;

applying heat to the dispersion to dry the dispersion and to at least partially melt the polyolefin particles and thereby fix the loops of yarn to the primary backing material.

8. (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the particles are present in an amount between about 25 and about 50 percent by weight of the dispersion.

9. (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the average size of the particles is between about 1 and about 1000 microns.

10. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the particles comprise polyethylene.
11. (original) The method of claim 10 wherein the polyethylene has a melt index at 190°C of between about 1 and about 100.
12. (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the dispersion comprises particles of polypropylene.
13. (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the dispersion comprises particles of ethylene acrylic acid.
14. (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the dispersion further comprises a surfactant.
15. (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the dispersion further comprises a thickener.
16. (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the step of applying heat is carried out in an oven at a temperature between about 100 and about 150°C.

17. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein the temperature is between about 5 and about 75°C above the melting point of the thermoplastic particles.

18. (original) The method of claim 7 wherein between about 6 and about 12 ounces per square yard of the polyolefin particles are applied to the back side of the primary backing.

19. (original) The method of claim 7 wherein the yarn, the primary backing and the thermoplastic particles are all made from a polyolefin.

20. (original) The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of applying an additional backing to the carpet by extruding a sheet of a thermoplastic material to the back side of the primary backing after the applying heat step.

21. (original) The method of claim 20 wherein the thermoplastic material in the extruded sheet is selected from the group consisting of polyolefin, polyvinyl chloride, ethylene vinyl acetate, polyamide, polyester, and copolymers thereof.

22. (original) The method of claim 20 wherein the thermoplastic material in the extruded sheet is a thermoplastic elastomer.

23. (original) The method of claim 20 wherein the thermoplastic material in the extruded sheet is a homogeneously branched ethylene polymer characterized as having a single melt point as measured by differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) between -30 and 140°C and a short chain branching distribution index (SCBDI) of greater than or equal to 50 percent.

24. (original) The carpet of Claim 23 wherein the homogeneously branched linear ethylene polymer is an interpolmer of ethylene with at least one C₃-C₂₀ α-olefin.

25. (original) The carpet of Claim 23 wherein the homogeneously branched linear ethylene polymer is a copolymer of ethylene and one C₃-C₂₀ α-olefin.

26. (original) The carpet of Claim 23 wherein the homogeneously branched linear ethylene polymer has a density in the range about 0.86 g/cc to about 0.90 g/cc.

27. (original) The method of claim 20 wherein the thermoplastic material in the extruded sheet is a polyolefin.

28. (original). The method of claim 20 wherein the yarn, the primary backing, the thermoplastic polymers and the extruded sheet are all made from a polyolefin.

29. (original) The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of applying an additional backing to the carpet by applying a layer of adhesive to the back side of the primary backing and laminating a secondary backing material thereto.

30. (original) The method of claim 29 wherein the adhesive and the secondary backing material are made from a polyolefin.

31. (original) The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of applying an additional backing to the carpet by applying a layer of melted polyolefin on the back side of the primary backing.

32. (original) The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of applying an additional backing to the carpet by casting a thermosettable material on the back side of the primary backing and then applying heat to set the thermosettable material.

Claims 33-161 (canceled)